

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION (FOR PROSECUTION)

Abstract

[00046] The invention relates to the use of inhibitors of acid sphingomyelinase and/or of inhibitors of products of the reaction catalyzed by this enzyme, for the prophylaxis and/or treatment of infectious diseases and/or diseases which are influenced by infections during the course thereof. The cited products especially include ceramide. Preferably neutralizing antibodies and/or antidepressants, especially tricyclic and/or tetracyclic antidepressants, are used as inhibitors.